



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Minnesota Ag News – Farms and Land in Farms



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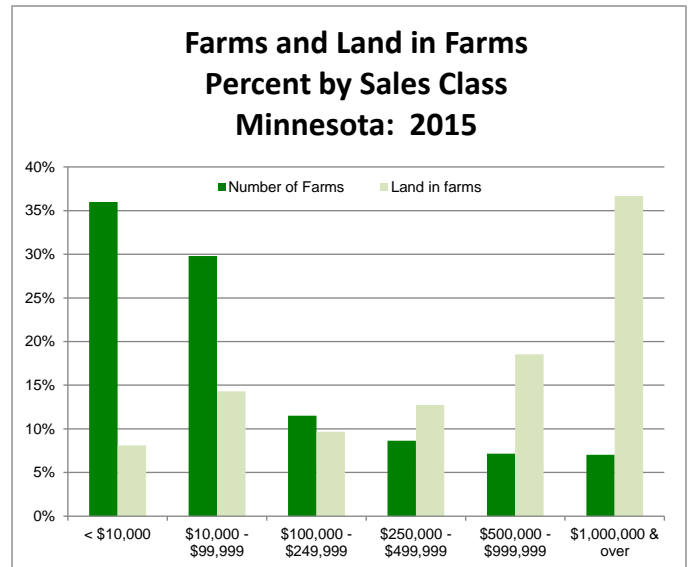
February 18, 2016

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The total number of farms in Minnesota in 2015 was 73,600, down 400 farms compared to a year ago, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The number of farms in the \$1,000,000 and over sales class increased by 100 to 5,300.

Total land in farms in Minnesota in 2015 was 25.9 million acres, unchanged since 2013. Land in farms was unchanged for all sales classes.

The average farm size in Minnesota in 2015 was 352 acres, up two acres from 2014. The average farm size in the \$1,000,000 and over sales class decreased 35 acres from 1,827 acres on average in 2014 to 1,792 in 2015.



## Farms and Land in Farms, by Sales Class - Minnesota: 2011-2015

[Farms and ranches are classified in "sales classes" by summing sales of agricultural products and government program payments.]

	\$1,000- \$9,999	\$10,000- \$99,999	\$100,000- \$249,999	\$250,000- \$499,999	\$500,000- \$999,999 <sup>1</sup>	\$1,000,000 & over <sup>1</sup>	Total
<b>Number of Farms</b>							
2011 .....	29,800	21,800	8,400	6,500	8,900	(NA)	75,400
2012 .....	27,000	22,000	8,400	6,400	10,700	(NA)	74,500
2013 .....	27,000	22,000	8,400	6,400	5,300	5,300	74,400
2014 .....	26,600	21,900	8,600	6,400	5,300	5,200	74,000
2015 .....	26,500	21,900	8,500	6,300	5,100	5,300	73,600
<b>Land in Farms, 1,000 acres</b>							
2011 .....	2,400	3,900	2,900	3,900	13,000	(NA)	26,100
2012 .....	2,100	3,650	2,600	3,350	14,300	(NA)	26,000
2013 .....	2,100	3,650	2,550	3,300	4,770	9,530	25,900
2014 .....	2,100	3,700	2,500	3,300	4,800	9,500	25,900
2015 .....	2,100	3,700	2,500	3,300	4,800	9,500	25,900
<b>Average Farm Size, acres</b>							
2011 .....	81	179	345	600	1,461	(NA)	346
2012 .....	78	166	310	523	1,336	(NA)	349
2013 .....	78	166	304	516	900	1,798	348
2014 .....	79	169	291	516	906	1,827	350
2015 .....	79	169	294	524	941	1,792	352

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Beginning in 2013, the \$500,000-\$999,999 and \$1,000,000 and over categories are published separately. Prior to that, the information was combined in the \$500,000 and over category.

## United States Farms and Land in Farms

The number of farms in the United States for 2015 is estimated at 2.07 million, down 18 thousand farms from 2014. Total land in farms, at 912 million acres, decreased 1 million acres from 2014. The average farm size for 2015 is 441 acres, up 3 acres from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are differentiated by six economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these six sales classes by summing the sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, \$500,000, and \$1,000,000. Producers were asked during the 2015 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2014 calendar year. Production or commodity price changes in 2014 resulted in the total value for most livestock and livestock products to increase while the value of most crops declined.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 in sales for the year to qualify as a farm, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more. Point Farms are assigned a sales class based on the sum of the agricultural point (dollar) values assigned to the quantity of commodities produced, but not sold. The 2012 Census of Agriculture showed that 428,810 farms or 20.3 percent of the 2.11 million farms were Point Farms. These Point Farms operated 63.0 million acres or 6.9 percent of the 914.5 million acres of farmland.

Farm numbers decreased by 18 thousand farms during 2015. The number of farms in Sales Class \$1,000 - \$9,999 declined while all other sales classes increased slightly. Fifty percent of all farms had less than \$10,000 in sales. Eighty percent of all farms had less than \$100,000 in sales. Eight percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

